US-PAT-NO: 5906976

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5906976 A

TITLE: Method and composition for treating neuronal degeneration

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (9):
In the method of the present invention, the glutamine synthetase and/or glucocorticoid can be administered in various ways, particularly since glucocorticoids can cross the blood-brain barrier. It should be noted that the glutamine synthetase and/or glucocorticoid can be administered as the compound or as pharmaceutically acceptable derivative (salt or ester) and can be administered alone or as an active ingredient in combination with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, adjuvants and vehicles. The compounds can be administered orally, subcutaneously or parenterally including intravenous, intraarterial, intramuscular, intraperitoneally, and intranasal administration as well as intrathecal and infusion techniques depending on dosing requirements and other factors known to those skilled in the art. Implants of the compounds are also useful. The patient being treated is a warm-blooded animal and, in particular, mammals including man.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (16):
For delivery within the CNS intrathecal delivery can be used with for

example an Ommaya reservoir. U.S. Pat. No. 5,455,044 provides for use of a dispersion system for CNS delivery or see U.S. Pat. No. 5,558,852 for a discussion of CNS delivery. While it is known that glucocorticoids can cross the blood brain barrier, pharmacological formulations that cross the blood-brain barrier can be prepared taking advantage of this and other methods and the composition administered. [Betz et al., 1994; Brem et a;., 1993]. Such formulations can take advantage of methods now available to produce chimeric peptides in which the present invention is coupled to a brain transport vector allowing transportation across the barrier. [Pardridge, et al., 1992; Pardridge, 1992; Bickel, et al., 1993] or methods of gene therapy [Kramer et al., 1995]. Alternatively, direct infusion into the cerebral spinal fluid can also be undertaken (Wilkins and Rengachary). Additionally, blood-brain-barrier disruption may be used in appropriate cases [Neuwelt et al., 1980].